

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-26 are pending in this Application.

By this Amendment, claims 1, 12, 19, and 26 are currently amended. Claim 12 has been canceled. Applicants respectfully submit that support for the claim amendments can be found throughout the specification and the drawings.

Claims 1-11 and 13-26 remain pending in the Application after entry of this Amendment. No new matter has been entered.

In the Office Action, claims 1-3, 7, 9-14, 18-21, and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over non-patent literature entitled "Implementing Oracle Workflow" (hereinafter "Mathieson") in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0186860 (hereinafter "Lee"). Claims 4-6, 15-17, and 22-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mathieson, in view of Lee, in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0002485 (hereinafter "Bisbee"), and in further view of non-patent literature entitled "Integrating XML and Databases" (hereinafter "Bertino"). Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mathieson, in view of Lee, in view of Bisbee, and in further view of alleged admissions made of the prior art. Claim 26 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mathieson, in view of Lee, in view of Bisbee, in view of Bertino, and in further view of alleged admissions made of the prior art.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections to claims 1-26 and request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Mathieson, Lee, Bisbee, Bertino, and any alleged admissions made of the prior art. Applicants respectfully submit that Mathieson, Lee, Bisbee, Bertino, and any alleged admissions made of the prior art, either individually or in combination, fail to disclose one or more of the claim limitations recited in each of claims 1-26. These differences, along with other difference, establish that the subject matter as a whole of claims 1-26 would not have been obvious at the time of invention to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

Applicants respectfully submit that Mathieson, Lee, Bisbee, Bertino, and any alleged admissions made of the prior art, fail to disclose or suggest the limitation recited in amended claim 1 of “receiving, at one or more computer systems, information defining an occurrence in one or more database applications as a business event that, upon occurrence, causes a database management system to intercept database transactions before the database transactions are committed to databases provided by the database management system.” The Office Action fails to demonstrate that Mathieson discloses or suggests defining an occurrence in one or more database applications as a business event. The “processes” shown in FIGS. 2 and 3 that need approval are substantially different from occurrences in database applications as recited in amended claim 1 defined as business events.

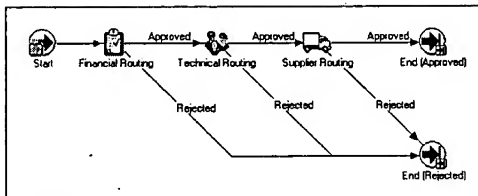


Figure 2: Purchase Order Routing

Mathieson does not disclose or suggest that any of the “Financial Routing,” “Technical Routing,” or “Supplier Routing” of decision points of purchase order routing are occurrences in database applications as recited in amended claim 1 defined as business events. On the contrary, FIG. 2 illustrates where the processes for an already created purchase order. Note the paragraph above FIG. 2 states that “we have defined how each document should be routed.” In contrast to Mathieson, a user as recited in amended claim 1 can define occurrences in database applications as business events that cause a database management system to intercept database transactions before the database transactions are committed to databases provided by the database management system.

an electronic record from intercepted transaction data prior to a database management system committing a database transaction to the database for creating a purchase order as recited in

Document Status	
15 03 1999 17 46	Approved by creator MATHIESON
15 03 1999 17 47	With PURVIS J awaiting approval (as Supervisor)
16 03 1999 09 16	Approved by PURVIS
16 03 1999 09 16	With ZOPICA V awaiting approval (as Admin Officer)
16 03 1999 12 17	Approved by ZOPICA
16 03 1999 12 19	Transformed into ORACLE HR

Figure 11: Document Status Information

amended claim 1. The document status in FIGS. 11 and 12 are merely updated after the purchase order is created in the database. Additionally, Mathieson fails to disclose or suggest that the document status updates are electronic records

created according to an electronic record definition associated with a business event and information that maps data from underlying database tables associated with database transactions to at least some of one or more fields defined in the electronic record definition as recited in amended claim 1.

Again, Mathieson teaches that purchase order documents can be created using a web interface (FIG. 1) by allowing users to supply detail information. Mathieson clearly teaches on page 2, top paragraph, that “[o]nce a document has been created, clicking the Send button initiates the Workflow Process.” Accordingly, in Mathieson, any database transactions associated with FIG. 1 to create purchase order document have already been committed to an associated database so that the documents are created before workflow processing begins. Therefore, Mathieson does not disclose or suggest intercepting the database transactions that create purchase order documents prior to committing them to the database to create the document status information in FIGS. 11 and 12. More, particularly, Mathieson fails to disclose or suggest intercepting the database transactions that create purchase order documents prior to committing them to the database to create additional electronic records “stored separately from the transaction data from the database transaction” as recited in amended claim 1 that are automatically created according to an electronic record definition associated with a business event and information that maps data from underlying database tables associated with the database transactions to at least some of the one or more fields defined in the electronic record definition as recited in amended claim 1. Lee, Bisbee, Bertino, and any alleged admissions made of the prior art fail to remedy the deficiencies of Mathieson and do not disclose or suggest the limitations as recited in amended claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Mathieson, Lee, Bisbee, Bertino, and any alleged admissions made of the prior art, fail to disclose each and every claim limitation as recited in amended claim 1. Applicants further respectfully submit that none of the cited references cure the above-discussed deficiencies of Mathieson, Lee, Bisbee, Bertino, and any alleged admissions made of the prior art, and thus, amended claim 1 is allowable over the cited references.

Applicants respectfully submit that the independent claims are allowable for at least a similar rationale as discussed above for the allowability of claim 1, and others. Applicants respectfully submit that the dependent claims that depend directly and/or indirectly from the independent claims, are also allowable for at least a similar rationale as discussed above for the allowability of the independent claims. Applicants further respectfully submit that the dependent claims recite additional features that make the dependent claims allowable for additional reasons.

Unless otherwise specified, amendments to the claims are made for the purposes of clarity, and are not intended to alter the scope of the claims or limit any equivalents thereof.

While Applicants do not necessarily agree with the prior art rejections set forth in the Office Action, these amendments may be made to expedite issuance of the Application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue claims to subject matter similar to those pending before the present Amendment in co-pending or subsequent applications.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,

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